



OSC Community News

Operations Systems Center

September 2007

WV First Lady Recognizes OSC Partnership Program



Mrs. Manchin (center) with NJE's Eileen Davis and OSC's LT Donald Shaffer.

West Virginia first lady Gayle Manchin awarded the Coast Guard's Operations Systems Center a certificate from the governor's office recognizing OSC for outstanding work in its partnership with North Jefferson Elementary School (NJE).

NJE is a title I school which focuses on disadvantaged children in high-poverty areas. It is the only school in Jefferson County with a special needs program for children with behavior disorders and autism.

OSC's Partnership in Education Officer, LT Donald Shaffer, received the award on behalf of the OSC staff during a 21st Century Jobs Cabinet meeting of

(See First Lady - page 2)

OSC Members Raise funds In Relay for Life



OSC's Karen Statler steps off in the Relay for Life.

OSC members took advantage of several opportunities to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life; an event to remember those lost to cancer and to celebrate those who won.

Earlier this year, OSC members painted the town Purple when they lined their work areas with purple ribbons honoring those who survived and remembered those who were taken by cancer.

This summer, about a dozen OSC mem-

(See Relay page 3)

OSC Celebrates Coast Guard's 217th Birthday

Food, games, dunk tank, dessert contest and lots of fun were the order of the day as OSC members and their families helped put candle number 217 on the Coast Guard's birthday cake.



The Chief's Mess grilled an estimated 350 burgers and 300 hotdogs.

This year's festivities included a Medevac4 helicopter static display and a remote control bomb robot from the Berkeley County Sheriff's Department.

OSC's Chief's Mess stepped up to

(See CG Day page 2)

Coast Guard Announces Over 1 Million Lives Saved

Coast guard Day 2007 marked a special milestone as the organization announced that over one million lives were saved since the Coast Guard's establishment in 1790.



A tool used for many of those saves is Amver; a computer-based system that resides and is supported at OSC.

Amver is a voluntary global ship-reporting system used worldwide. Querying the Amver database, rescue coordinators identify ships in the distress area and divert the one best-suited.

In 2006, the average daily plot was over 3,000 vessels. Over 5,000 vessels from almost 90 countries received certificates for their Amver participation.

Summer Intern Class of 2007 Marks 10th Anniversary

"It all started 10 years ago...at a lunch table", according to Contract Program Manager



OSC's Intern Class of 2007

Bill Bowen addressing the 2007 intern graduating class marking the completion of a decade of success.

Those selected for the program represent the top 10% of their peers and provide young aspiring talent from area colleges to provide technical support for a growing OSC to meet its mission,

Today, over 40 contractor resident staff started as an intern or co-operative student.

Human Resources staff conducts (See Intern page 3)

OSC's First Book Distribution a First for West Virginia

This summer the OSC pulled resources together with Royce Too LLC warehouse in Martins-



Captain Deveau explains the First Book program to WHAG News Director Mark Kraham

burg to mark the first-ever First Book distribution in West Virginia.

Numerous OSC members along with others from Citigroup and Berke-

(See Book page 3)

First Lady (cont'd)

which the governor's wife is co-chair.

Since the program's inception in 2006, OSC has provided computers, office furniture for staff and administration, and participated in the school's Career Day. OSC members have served as volunteer readers and collected several pickup truck loads of Christmas presents that were donated to families of low income students.

The most recent highlight of the program was coordinating warehouse space for distribution of over 500,000 books to Title I schools through First Book.

OSC's Dirty Dozen Endured Rain at Annual Day of Caring

OSC employees rolled up their sleeves and completed eight projects despite the rain in this year's Day of Caring.



Kristy Turner, Captain Deveau, and Terri Burdette (l to r)

Joanne Wadsworth, chairwoman of the Day of Caring of the Eastern Panhandle, said even though it was the events first-ever rain, close to 1,100 volunteers worked on more than 100 projects in Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan counties.

This year's theme was "What's in your heart" and was very fitting as local heroes gave from their hearts on September 11.

Jason Watts, OSC's Day of Caring Coordinator reports that OSC has been participating in this annual event for about 10 years.



Mike Fisher and John Godwin team up to give this tree a trim.

Eastern Panhandle Students Tour OSC

Coast Guard recruiter PO Franson from Washington, DC, briefed 80—90 students from Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan Counties on the Coast Guard's roles, missions, and history.



Coast Guard Recruiter Michael Franson presents the Coast Guard to eager listeners.

Captain Deveau presented information on the world of information technology. Bill Bowen shared information on technology opportunities at the OSC.

The visit finished with a tour of the OSC data floor and Data Center Support.

LT Donald Shaffer Receives Employee of the Year

53rd District Delegate Jonathan Miller with LT Shaffer at the EPFEA Award Banquet.

Congratulations to LT Donald Shaffer who was recognized as the top federal manager by the Eastern Panhandle Federal Executives Association.

LT Shaffer received his award at the organization's Distinguished Service Award banquet at the National Conservation Center's Training Center near Shepherdstown.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to LT Shaffer as a result of his role as OSC's Partnership in Education coordinator.

CG Day (Con't)

the plate, er...rather the grill and served burgers and hotdogs.

The kids enjoyed pony rides, a moon bounce, balloon art, and face painting.



Representatives from North Jefferson Elementary School, First Book, Berkeley County Sheriff Department, The Martinsburg Journal, and WHAG—NBC25 were among OSC's special guests.

**OSC Scores High in Raising the Bar in Trusted Agent FISMA**

Congratulations to Del Tomaini and her C&A team as they received a total score of 98.2 points out of 100 in Department of Homeland Security's Raising the Bar initiative.

All OSC operational systems now have a current Authority to Operate (ATO). These 25 different Business and General Support Systems constitute over 20% of all Coast Guard systems in

Intern (cont'd)

7-10 visits to colleges beginning in October. They conduct over 200 interviews that yield about 10-15 candidates for the 14-week summer program.

This summer, 10 students from 6 area colleges and universities paired with functional teams to pursue specific initiatives in Oracle, Microsoft, Java, other programming environments.

Area Colleges represented this summer included: Gettysburg College, James Madison University, Morgan State University, University of Alabama, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia University.

Captain Deveau congratulated the graduating students and recognized them for providing extraordinary contributions in Coast Guard IT initiatives and thanked them for improving OSC's internal business processes.



Summer interns present a Powerpoint presentation of their summer projects at their OSC graduation

Many of this year's interns will go on to complete undergraduate and graduate studies. Who knows...you may see some faces returning for full-time positions to supplement their intern experience.

Book (cont'd)

ley County Schools received, warehoused, and shipped about 500,000 books donated by publisher Simon & Schuster Inc.

The program gets books into the hands of low income children and helps create their desire to read.

This year marks the 15th birthday for First Book and the donation of its 50 millionth book.



Ron Winalski, ITC Guy Cranfill, SK1 Bryan O'Shaughnessy, and ITC John Creager stacking their share of 500,000 books.

Relay (cont'd)

Jon Jack welcomes folks to the Relay Taco Lunch.

bers continued in the campaign by walking in the Berkeley County Relay for Life where the team raised over \$4800 and placed in the top ten teams out of ninety.

OSC employees took advantage of the Relay for Life Taco Luncheon as another fun way to help support the cause.

Total funds raised for the Berkeley County event came to almost \$260,000—one of the highest totals in West Virginia.

Dale Streyle rides with Lance Armstrong...kind of

What do OSC's Dale Streyle and 7-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong have in common? They both biked 477



Riders cool off their bike tires in the Mississippi River at race's end.

miles across Iowa in the 35th Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI) with about 10,000 other riders.

Dale has been an avid bicyclist for many years. One of the highlights of his hobby is participating in the RAGBRAI each summer. July 2007 was no exception...as it was for Lance Armstrong; his first time.

Although Dale didn't get to chat with the world-famous bicyclist, he said he did see Armstrong for a couple of seconds as his entourage whizzed by.

The six-day ride is open to all on-comers. It began in 1973 when two Des Moines Register journalists challenged each other to a ride across Iowa.

Since the first event, more than 200 other rides have been established taking their inspiration from RAGBRAI. Riders for this one have come from throughout the world.

Grand Haven, Michigan Site of First CG Picnic

The very first Coast Guard picnic was in 1924 at the Life Saving Station in Grand Haven, Michigan.

Proclaimed to be known as Coast Guard City, USA by Admiral James M. Loy in 1998,



this year's observance marked the 83rd consecutive year for Grand Haven's Coast Guard Festival.

The special focus was the National Memorial Service remembering the crew of the USCGC *Escanaba*, a 270-foot class cutter which arrived in Grand Haven in 1932 but was torpedoed in 1943.

According to G-IPA, five cities have been designated as Coast Guard Cities. How many of them can you name?

(Answers bottom of page)

How Do I Request Coast Guard Support for a Community or Commercial Event?

If you would like the Coast Guard represented at a local event, contact OSC's Public Affairs Officer, Dave Kipp at extension 2581 or stop by office 2130.

The Coast Guard participates in various community activities including civil ceremonies, patriotic programs, and national holiday events.

The Coast Guard generally does not participate in events that charge for admission, unless our participation is incidental to the program, is patriotic in nature, and does not benefit or appear to benefit selectively the commercial activity of the sponsor.

Coast Guard Cities...

Grand Haven, MI, Eureka, CA, Mobile, AL, Morgan City, LA, Wilmington, N.C.